

County of San Diego

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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NOTICE OF PREPARATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SAN VICENTE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT RAMONA, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA MAY 11, 2009

The County of San Diego (County) is the lead agency in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the San Vicente Road Widening Project as specified by section 15120-15131 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

This notice is issued pursuant to Section 15082 of the State CEQA Guidelines. It is intended to inform those persons and organizations that may be concerned with the environmental effects of the project. Those public agencies with specific statutory responsibilities are requested to indicate their specific role in the project approval process. The Initial Study for this project can be reviewed at the Department of Public Works (DPW), Environmental Services, 5469 Kearny Villa Road, Suite 305, San Diego, CA 92123, at the Ramona Public Library at 1406 Montecito Road, Ramona, CA 92065, and on-line at http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dpw/environment/envrnsvcs.html.

Because of the time limits mandated by State law, responses should be sent at the earliest possible date, but no later than **June 9, 2009**. Please send your response to:

County of San Diego
Department of Public Works, Environmental Services Unit
5469 Kearny Villa Road, Suite 305
San Diego, CA 92123
Attn: Gail Jurgella
Fax: (858) 874-4043

e-mail: gail.jurgella@sdcounty.ca.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

The environmental document will be a project-level EIR as defined in Section 15161 of the CEQA Guidelines and is intended to allow the County to examine the environmental effects of the proposed San Vicente Road Widening Project and to take steps to avoid environmental impacts.

This notice also serves as notice of a public scoping and community outreach meeting for the project. The meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at the Ramona Community Center, 434 Aqua Lane (at the end of 5th Street) Ramona, California 92065. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is located in the Ramona Community Planning Area in unincorporated east San Diego County. The proposed project area extends approximately 2.25 miles along San Vicente Road from Warnock Drive to approximately 500 ft east of Wildcat Canyon Road. The project area can be found on Thomas Brothers Guide pages 1172 and 1173.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The County of San Diego Department of Public Works proposes to improve an approximately 2.25 mile section of San Vicente Road between Warnock Drive and just east of Wildcat Canyon Road in the unincorporated community of Ramona in eastern San Diego County. The proposed project consists of improvements to an approximate 2.25 mile section of San Vicente Road. The existing road is approximately 30-foot wide with two 12-foot lanes and minimal shoulders. The 2-lane road design is unsafe due to inadequate sight distance issues. The proposed road improvements will result in two 13-foot travel lanes, two 5 foot bike lanes, one 14 foot turn lane at the Warnock Drive and Wildcat Canyon Road intersections, and two graded 10 foot parkways. In total the new road width will increase to a maximum of approximately 70 feet at the turn lane locations (to include 50 feet of paving) and to a minimum of 56 feet (to include 36 feet of paving) for the remaining length of the project site.

The project is a Community Planning Group priority project and is designed to enhance existing road conditions on San Vicente Road by improving both horizontal and vertical sight distance. The project objective is to enhance the safety features of San Vicente Road for motorists, bicyclist, equestrians, and pedestrians.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

An analysis of the environmental impacts is currently being conducted. The following environmental factors will be analyzed in the environmental document: Aesthetics, Biological Resources, and Cultural Resources. These issues, along with an analysis of project alternatives, cumulative effects, and potential for growth inducement, will be analyzed and discussed in the EIR for the Project.

LIST OF AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDIVIDUALS TO RECEIVE THIS NOTICE OF PREPARATION

All Property Owners within a minimum of 500 feet of the Project

California Department of Fish and Game

California Department of Transportation, District #11

California Office of Historic Preservation

California Office of Planning and Research – State Clearinghouse

California Regional Water Quality Control Board - San Diego Region

California Native Plant Society

County of San Diego, Sheriff's Department – Ramona Substation

County of San Diego, Supervisor Dianne Jacob

Native American Heritage Commission

Ramona Community Planning Group

Ramona Fire Department

Ramona Municipal Water District

Ramona Public Library

Ramona Unified School District

San Diego County Archaeological Society

San Diego Gas and Electric

Sierra Club

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

